

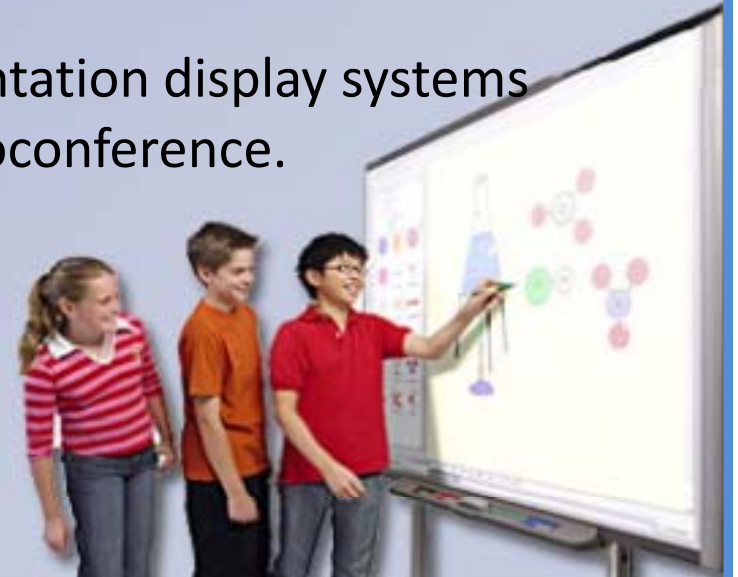
# Interactive Whiteboards

The Good, The Bad and  
The Not So Ugly



# What is an Interactive Whiteboard Anyway?

- To paraphrase Bitpipe.com(2007): A whiteboard is:
  - A non-electronic variation of the traditional "rewriteable" schoolroom blackboard
  - It is white instead of black
  - Made of a material that can be written on with dry erase markers.
  - One of several kinds of writeable presentation display systems that can be used in a classroom or videoconference.

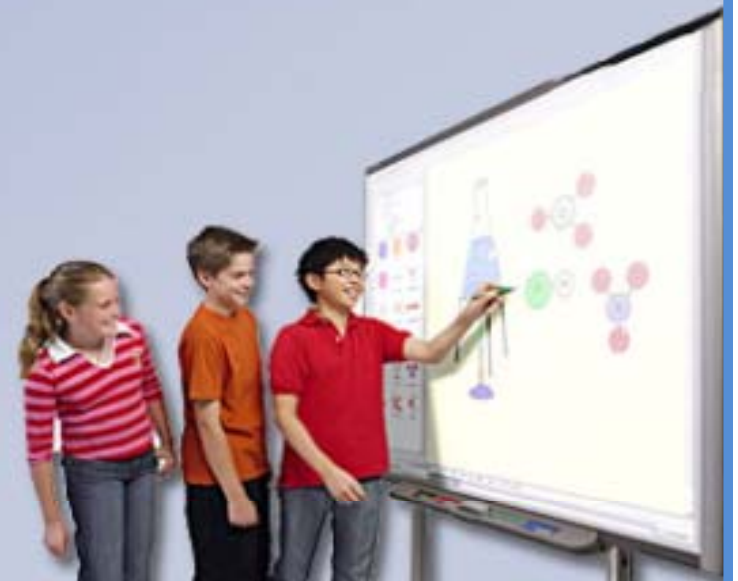


# Types of Whiteboards

- **Standalone copy boards**, where the content of the whiteboard can be scanned and printed out
- **Peripheral boards**, which transfer information in the form of digital files to an attached computer.
- **Interactive boards**, the most expensive and sophisticated option, which are like large touch screen monitors that can be synchronized to an attached computer.

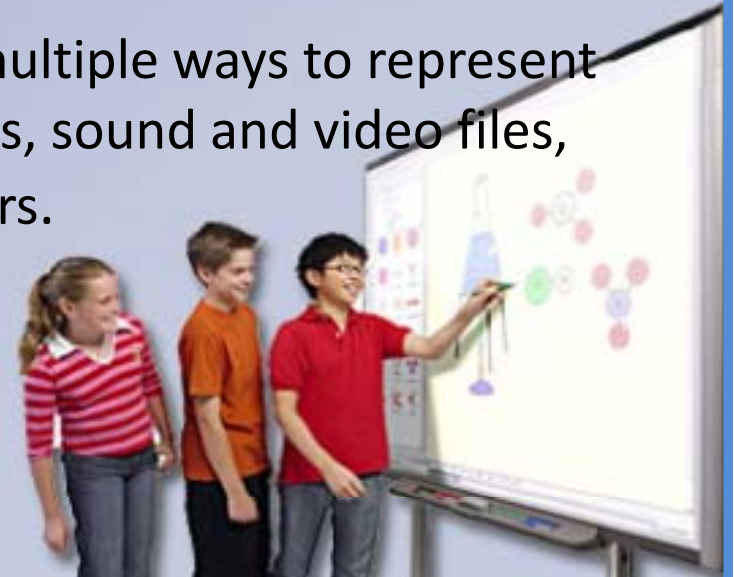


# The Good



# Are They Really That Useful?

- In the SMART White Paper, *Creating Classrooms for Everyone ,How Interactive Whiteboards Support Universal Design for Learning* (2009) there are several statements that seem to support whiteboard use, to paraphrase;
  - “Interactive whiteboards are designed to engage a wide variety of students in the learning process. They evolved from constructivist pedagogy and support each of the three principles of universal design for learning.”
  - “ The product provides teachers with multiple ways to represent information using interactive text, images, sound and video files, and thus engage a broad range of learners.



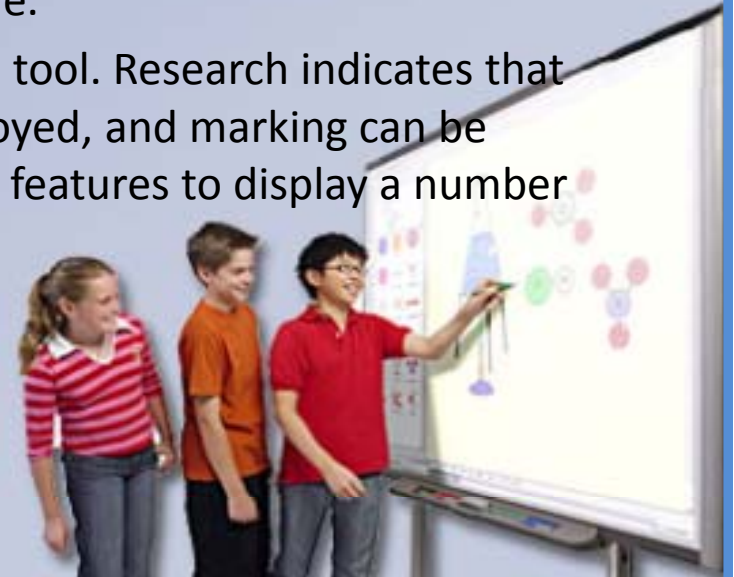
# Are They Really That Useful? Con't

- “Students can use the same features of the product to demonstrate their understanding of a topic. Touch-sensitive boards in particular give multiple options for interacting with displayed information, including by finger, pen tool or other object.”
- “ Finally, interactive whiteboards captivate learners of the digital age, increasing student engagement with instant, tactile access to digital resources.



# What Can They Do For You?

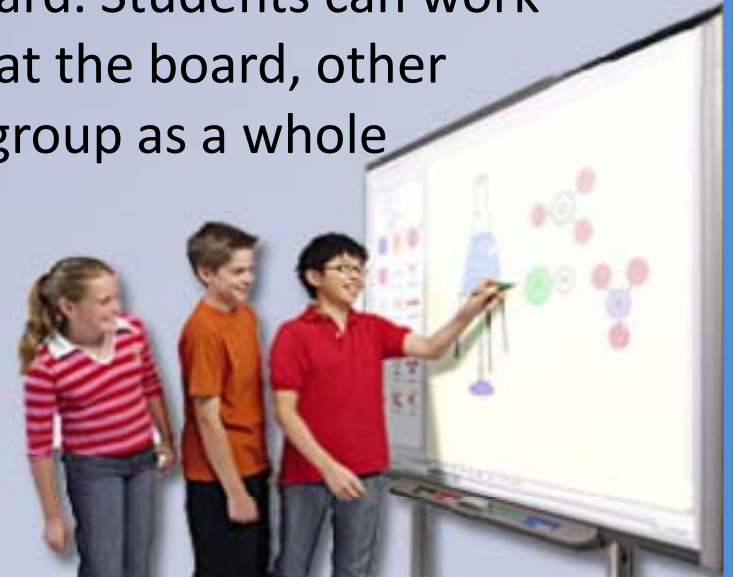
- According to Baker(2002) there are several positives!
  - The board can accommodate different learning styles. Tactile learners can benefit from touching and marking at the board, audio learners can have the class discussion, visual learners can see what is taking place as it develops at the board.
  - The interactive electronic whiteboard is great for demonstrations. the presenter can run the application from the board, using his finger like a mouse, it is easy to show the important features of particular software.
  - The interactive electronic whiteboard is a colorful tool. Research indicates that students respond to displays where color is employed, and marking can be customized both in the pen and in the highlighter features to display a number of different colors.





# What Can They Do For You?

- According to Baker(2002) there are several reasons! (con't)
  - All ages of students respond favorably to board use.
  - Distance learning is an excellent setting for interactive whiteboard use.
  - One-computer classrooms can maximize the use of limited computer access by using the whiteboard. Students can work together with individuals contributing at the board, other participants at the computer, and the group as a whole discussing the activity.
  - And So Much More!!!

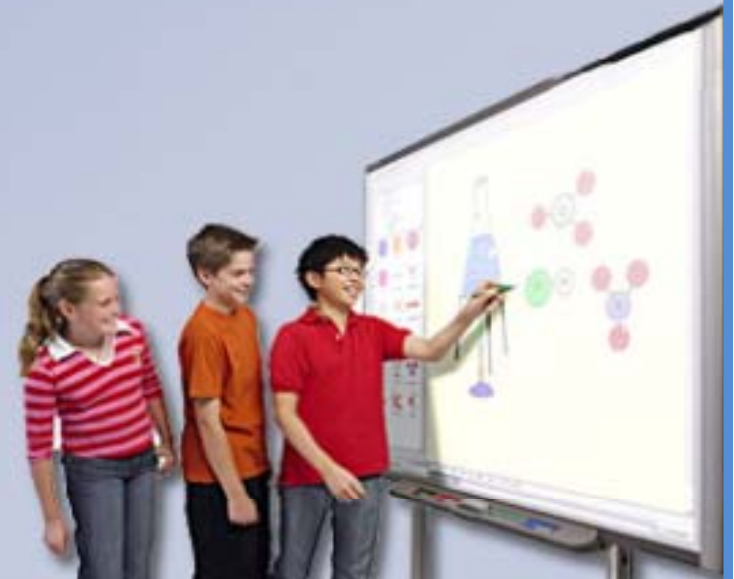




According to the report: **The use of interactive whiteboards in the primary classroom: What is effective practice?** Julie Cogill (2003) lists some of the positive and negative sides to interactive Whiteboards.

## Positives

- Access to resources
- Presentation
- In touch with ICT
- Ownership
- Better planning
- Shared resources
- Recall previous work
- Respond to needs
- Children's motivation
- Collaborative learning



# The Bad



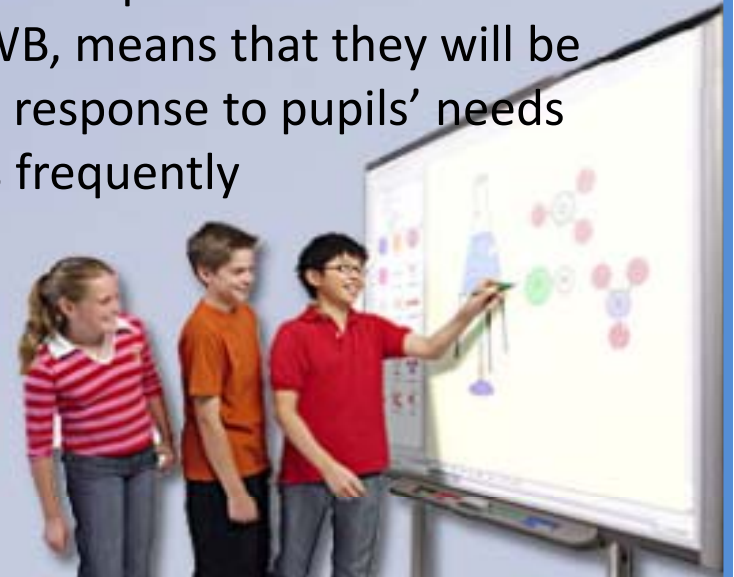
# The Downside of Whiteboards

Zevenbergen & Lerman (2008) in the article, *Learning Environments Using Interactive Whiteboards: New Learning Spaces or Reproduction of Old Technologies?* state, “There is a sense that there is considerable potential in the tool but this has not been realized. There are concerns about the reduction in interaction, the increase in teacher control, and the faster pacing of lessons which are often at the expense of quality questioning.”



# Possible Consequences

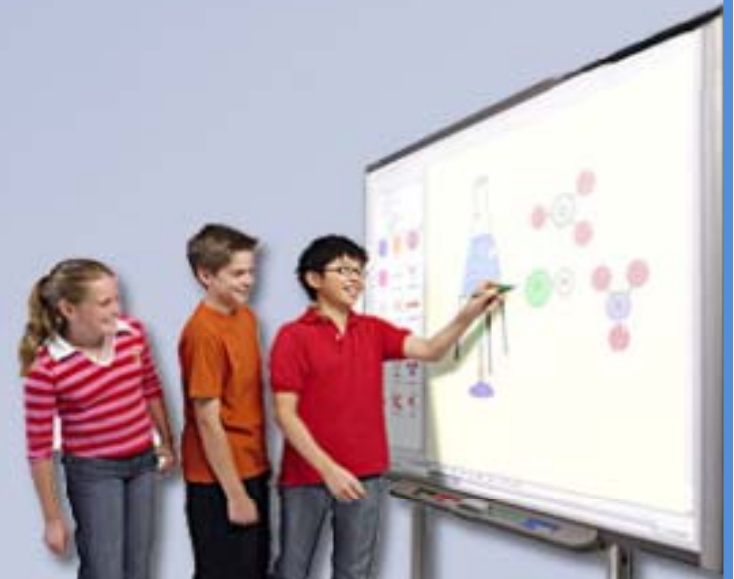
- To further Paraphrase the article by Zevenbergen, R., & Lerman, S. (2008). *Learning Environments Using Interactive Whiteboards: New Learning Spaces or Reproduction of Old Technologies?*
  - Tools will not transform pedagogy.
  - The technologically impressive features of the IWB can lead to it being used to close down further the possibility of rich communications and interactions in the classroom as teachers are seduced by the IWB's ability to capture pupils' attention.
  - Preparation for using the IWB, often via the ubiquitous PowerPoint package or pre-prepared lessons for the IWB, means that they will be less likely to deviate from their planning in response to pupils' needs and indeed might notice pupils' needs less frequently



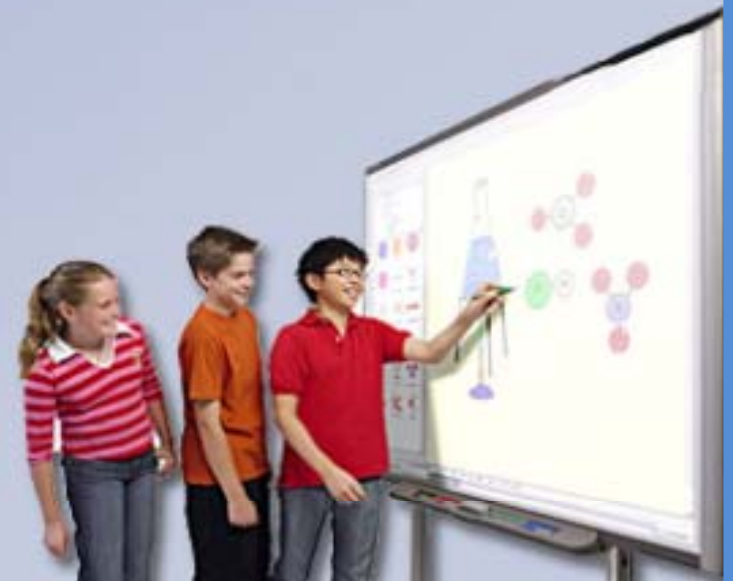
According to the report: **The use of interactive whiteboards in the primary classroom: What is effective practice?** Julie Cogill (2003) lists some of the positive and negative sides to interactive Whiteboards.

## Negatives

- More variation - access
- Cost
- Training
- Need for practice
- Downloading Internet
- Software available
- Reliance on visuals
- Teacher exposition
- Height of the board
- LCD v whiteboard

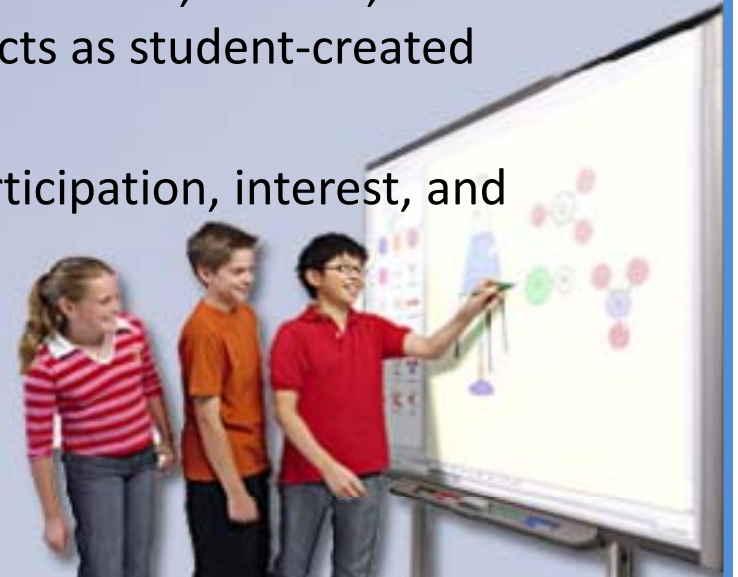


# You Decide...



# What is A Teacher To Do?

- Research articles like the following:
- Teacher testimonials were found in the article: *Speaking of Electronic Whiteboards...* Jackson (2004). Some of statements are as follows:
  - “Minnesota educator was surprised to find that her electronic whiteboard not only engaged first graders in literacy instruction, but also provided valuable scaffolding for diverse learners. “
  - “ Students at Bowden Grandview School in Alberta, Canada, use their electronic whiteboard for such team projects as student-created picture books.”
  - “Administrators report greater student participation, interest, and excitement in the curriculum.





# Check Out Some Web Sites

- Online tutorial videos:

<http://smarttech.com/trainingcenter/tutorials.asp#>

- YouTube:

[http://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_type=&search\\_query=whiteboard+tutorial+video&aq=f](http://www.youtube.com/results?search_type=&search_query=whiteboard+tutorial+video&aq=f) (be careful some of them have NO educational value)

- On Online Recorded Lesson

<http://www.prometheanplanet.com/server.php?show=nav.16621>



# Resources

Bell, D. (2002). Why Use an Interactive Whiteboard? A Baker's Dozen Reasons! *TEACHERS.NET GAZETTE*, 3(1). Retrieved May 19, 2009, from <http://teachers.net/gazette/JAN02/mabell.html>

Bitpipe. (2007). White Papers, Product Information and Research Reports on define, interactive, whiteboard. In *Information Technology - Technical white papers - IT information - Bitpipe.com*. Retrieved May 19, 2009, from [http://www.bitpipe.com/data/search?site=bpmd&qp=site\\_abbrev%3Abpmd&qg=VEN\\_DOR&cp=bpres&cr=bpres&st=1&qt=define+interactive+whiteboard](http://www.bitpipe.com/data/search?site=bpmd&qp=site_abbrev%3Abpmd&qg=VEN_DOR&cp=bpres&cr=bpres&st=1&qt=define+interactive+whiteboard)

Cogill, J. (2003). *The use of interactive whiteboards in the primary classroom: What is effective practice?* Retrieved May 19, 2009, from [http://partners.becta.org.uk/upload-dir/downloads/page\\_documents/research/conf2003/JulieCogill.ppt](http://partners.becta.org.uk/upload-dir/downloads/page_documents/research/conf2003/JulieCogill.ppt).

Jackson, L. (2004). Speaking of Electronic Whiteboards.... In *Education World*. Retrieved May 19, 2009, from [http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_tech/tech/tech206.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech/tech206.shtml)



# Resources

SMART Technologies ULC. (2009). *Creating Classrooms for EveryoneHow Interactive Whiteboards SupportUniversal Design for Learning* (Rep.). Retrieved May 19, 2009, from <http://www2.smarttech.com/NR/rdonlyres/BAEE09C6-0871-46BE-AE23-70A787F184E0/0/InteractivewhiteboardsanduniversaldesignforlearningJan20.pdf>.

Zevenbergen, R., & Lerman, S. (2008). Learning Environments Using Interactive Whiteboards: New Learning Spaces or Reproduction of Old Technologies? *Mathematics Education Research Journal*, 20(1), 108-126. Retrieved May 19, 2009, from [http://www.merga.net.au/documents/MERJ\\_20\\_1\\_Zevenbergen.pdf](http://www.merga.net.au/documents/MERJ_20_1_Zevenbergen.pdf)

